

PATENT APPLICATION

Serial No. 10/649,331 Atty. Docket No. 388-031684

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit 3618

:

In re Application of

:

Akira MINOURA et al.

WORKING VEHICLE PROPELLED BY

INDEPENDENTLY DRIVEN RIGHT AND

LEFT RUNNING UNITS

Serial No. 10/649,331

Filed August 26, 2003

Examiner-Not Yet Assigned

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania February 12, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement together with a completed Form PTO/SB/08A and a copy of some of the references listed thereon.

This application corresponds and claims priority to Japanese Application No. 2002-277727, filed September 24, 2002.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 12, 2004.

Kay E. Yetter
(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

Signature

Date

{W0105165.1}

The relevance of Japanese unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2000-71790, of which an Abstract is enclosed herewith, is indicated on page 1, lines 28-29 of the specification. U. S. Patent No. 6,578,656 is enclosed herewith as a corresponding English language equivalent of JP 2000-71790. The relevance of Japanese unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2000-351330 is indicated in the Partial English Translation of the relevant portions of this reference, enclosed herewith.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fee is believed to be due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, as it is being submitted before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits. Nevertheless, the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. The original and two copies of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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y / Hend

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Approved for use through 10/31/2001. OMB 0651-0031

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INFORM	IATION D	DISCLOS	URE	Application Number	10/649,331	
STATEM	MENT BY	APPLICA	ΔΝΤ	Filing Date	August 26, 2003	
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Sheet	1	Of	1	Attorney Docket Number	388-031684	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number Kind Code ²		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		4,738,328		Hayden	April 19, 1988	,
·		6,196,348	B1	Yano et al.	March 6, 2001	
		6,578,656	B2	Samejima et al.	June 17, 2003	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Office ³	oreign Patent Doc Number ⁴	ument Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		JP 2000-71	790		Kubota Corp.	March 7, 2000		
		JP 2000-35	1330		Kubota Corp.	December 19, 2000		X
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Examiner	Date	
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.